



January 29, 2010

Paul E. Stacey
Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse
Planning and Standards Division
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

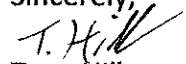
Mr. Stacey,

I'm writing this letter to support the Proposed Stream Flow Standards. As a Norwalk resident and director of the Mianus Chapter of Trout Unlimited, I'm concerned that the proposed regulations may not fulfill their potential. The classification system provides guidelines, but the Class 4 should be changed to offer a chance to upgrade the river or stream.

The DEP has the opportunity to protect the rivers and streams in Connecticut for the benefit of all water users, be they commercial, residential or recreational. There should be tighter restriction on withdrawals, limits on all types of pollution and encouragement of better zoning laws.

The damage that can occur through neglect, even for a brief time, will take years of work, both human and nature's, to restore. The long term health of the rivers is a goal that Trout Unlimited members work for on a regular basis, spending time working on bank restoration, construction of dam bypasses, and myriad other projects.

I look forward to the day when all Connecticut residents (as well as vacationers/visitors) can say, "No other state has done as much for the health of its rivers and streams as Connecticut".

Sincerely,

Tony Hill
267 West Cedar Street
Norwalk, CT 06854
Mianus Chapter of Trout Unlimited